

THE

XV

# Batchellors Answer

TO THE

# Maids Complaint

OR THE

# YOUNG MEN'S VINDICATION.

Clearing themselves from those unjust  
Aspersions, and setting forth the subtle Tricks and  
Vices of the Female Party.

WITH

The Terms they resolve to stand upon if  
ever they Marry.



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L O N D O N

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## The Batshellors Answer

TO

## The Maids Complaint.



After so many Proofs of our Affection as we have given you, little did we think you could have been so ungrateful, as thus publicly to exclaim against us; we would freely excuse your *modesty* without an Apology, if you had really cause to complain; but your Reproach-  
es are as *unjust* as they are confident, and your Alligations no less *false* in themselves than unbecoming your Sex. We appeal to all History, whether there were ever a more *Amorous* Age, and are confident *Venus* was never so much *worshipped* in *Cyprus*, as she has been of late amongst *us*: Formerly indeed the good *Lasses* were wont to expect the *Teens*, but you now adays prevent them.

We are not ignorant of those *little Arts* you mention, used by you to *whedle* us into Dotage; but we know also that for all your Angelical looks you are the *Tay-*

lous Creatures as much as Natures; and owe your Ro-  
 sic Complexions to the *dressing box*, we are partly sen-  
 sible how many loathsome hereditary *Diseases* you de-  
 rive from your wanton Mothers: and care not much  
 for an everlasting *Bed-fellow*. We understand right  
 well your treacherous *Smiles*, and your dissembling  
*Tearstree*, which you have always ready at a Minutes  
 warning. What Pride you take in the number of  
 your *Servants*; and how subtly you *manage*  
 them to the best advantage; feeding all with e-  
 qual hopes to make every one the freer of his presents.  
 Thus you sit in *Jacks* Lap, and at the same instant tread  
*with* on the Toe; sell a kind look to one for a Diamond  
 Ring, and half a *Kiss* to another for a Rich *Locket*, or  
*Bracelet*; and then laugh at both the silly *Fops*, for be-  
 ing bubbled so easily: well therefore may you reckon  
 your *Temptations* amongst your *Studies*, but that the  
 Soul and *Gallantry* of a Man should be basely prostitu-  
 ted to them, is as ridiculous, as for an Eagle to stoop  
 at Flies. We know not (to use your own Compari-  
 son) why a Woman should not be viewed with as little  
 Ardour as an handsome *Statue*. For what is the Influe-  
 ence of *Flesh*, as to the Eye, above that of *Marble*?  
 When we come into a spacious Gallery variously be-  
 hung with Curious pieces, we can walk it round, look  
 on this Picture, and like it, then turn our Faces, and  
 forget it in the Beauty of the next; why may we not  
 do so with Women, since they upon the whole mat-  
 ter are but Pictures too; and for the most part scurvily  
*Painted*? Not but that we could be content to trifle a-  
 way our idle hours with you; and allow you the end  
 of your Creation, as things born (*Ad usum & usum*  
*virorum*)

*virum*) for our Pastimes and Delight; but you would have us passionately in *Love* with you (*Heaven bless us*) and not only so, but to put on the Marriage *shackles*, a slavery worse than those miserable wretches suffer at *Algiers*, that tugg continually at the Oar. We could love you like *any thing*, no body knows how long, but for setting of *Joyntures*, and Coupling for ever and a day, *for better, for worse* (*good Girls*) we must therein beg your *Diversiſion*.

To be tyed for term of life like a *Monkey* by the *Loyns* to a Bed-post, with the same Woman is a most *unconſcionable* Propoſal. Alas, 'Tis *Variety* that is the Mother of delight, and never was there ſuch a *ſtrong* Stomach but would be cloy'd being confined perpetually to one *Diſh*: Beſides, it ſeems an Infringement of the Liberty of the Subject and a Violation of Nature's *Magna Charta* we muſt tell you every one that wears a *Petticoat* is not capable, nor merits the Affections of a man: nay, Commonly it may be ſaid, That the faireſt of your Sex (were a mixture of pure white and red, ſuppoſing it natural accompliſhes the Face) are ſitter for Miſtreſſes than Wives and yield a more pleaſing entertainment in a *Belcony* or *Coach* than *Bed*: Hence it is that ſo many Men *repent* their Bargains ſo ſoon, and with the ſame eagernels have in one years time ſtudied both a *Marriage* & a *Divorce*, having not more long'd to obtain, than having obtained to deſert. Their hopes and their Loves perishing together, the fruition of the one proving the expiration of the other: on this occaſion the Proverb of *Hony moons* came into the World; and if any can continue a long affection for ſuch, either the Man is extraordinary good, or the Woman exceeding cunning;

or

or else he is a raw *Novice*, who having no experience of the Sex, imagins all to be as his Wife is; as the *Roman Dame* supposed all Mens Breath to stink (she having never kissed any else.) because her *Husbands* did so: Nor are we therefore to be Reproached for our zealous Profession *before* Marriage, because few live up to them after it, or to be censured so bitterly for *Inconstancy*, because we do not persist in our first affection, and declarations: for perhaps the pretty Lady is *changed*, or does by surrender acquaint us with *Discoveries*, we neither knew, nor could make before; and therefore being deceived, and knowing our selves to be so; that we should Act and Compart our selves, as if we were not so, is a *Constraint* every Mans Spirit cannot submit to, and to be excused as well as the principall *frailties* whereunto Humane Nature is liable,

But we need not argue the case thus *seriously*, The plain Truth is, you would not be so fond of *Marriage*, but to gain the greater *Liberty*, & make the Fopps your *Husbands Cloaks* for your wanton Sallies, knowing how much soever you are rifled *abroad*, you lose nothing that they are like to miss when you come home, and that whoever you afford the pleasure of *getting* your Children, They must certainly be at the Charge of *keeping* them; Talk not then to us of making loves to your *Virtues*, if that be the only Charm, what need we lie with you. And though possibly it may be true that there may be *some* Virtue in some Women, yet we are pretty confident there is any such *stock* of it in any of you, as to make a Man run out of his *Senses* for the love of it; Nor think to fright us with your predictions that we shall doat on *Dowdies* at last, or marry *Old women*

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*men* for their Mony, that are ready to be Hang'd for *witches*, for their ugliness; For even that is better than your silly Beggarly *Love-marriage* which is both the *Paradise* and *Purgatory* of Fools, A Wife being in *no* case so allowable as for getting an Estate.

The pretense for propogation of *posterity* is insignificant, for we humbly conceive more Children have been begat in these last 4000 years, for the sake of the *means*, than of the End. And though

*Land must be Till'd, yet since there are enow,  
Drudges and Slaves 'ith World what need we  
Plow.*

Let the good Common-wealths-men you talk of look to that, who have not *Wit* enough to distinguish between the Embraces of a Wife, and the Charms of a Miss, whom you rail at out of meer Envy, because you cannot get Gallants your selves; yet do not despair absolutely, If you will but be obliging and kind, wee'l free you from the dread of leading Apes in Hell, and perhaps when become well stricken in years, we may discend to the Folly of Wedlock with you, If you will in the mean time be good House-wives and scrape together lusty Portions to Bribe us to it; and withall put us in good security that when we purchase you in Fee-tail, we shall not be lyable to the Rent Charge of a Gallant, nor the Encumbrance of the Horn, For to tell the naked  
Truth

